



## FEJA Solar Pipeline Training

### 2026 Program Manual

# Chapter 11: Finances, Records and Reports

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## Chapter Overview

By the end of the chapter, you will be able to:

- Describe the expectations related to participants' files.
- Utilize the Participant File Checklist to collect and maintain required documents.
- Comply with the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) requirements.
- Determine the appropriate use of funds, how to request an advance or budget modification, and how to establish a procurement policy.
- Utilize the Periodic Financial Report (PFR) to submit expenses.
- Utilize the Periodic Performance Report (PPR) to submit performance data.

This section will set expectations for recordkeeping and reporting; including submitting programmatic and financial reports, as well as inform grantees of the appropriate use of program funds related to expenditures, budget modifications, and procurement.

## Recordkeeping

Typically, data entry staff are also responsible for reporting and recordkeeping. **Recordkeeping** is the maintenance of participant records, including all required documents such as applications, certificates, and certifications.

Accurate recordkeeping is necessary to:

- Document that work has been completed.
- Monitor and assess the program.
- Communicate and transfer information across staff and grantees.
- Ensure accurate reporting.

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- Address legal issues.
- Manage risks.

### Participant Records and Files

**Recordkeeping** involves storing and organizing documents in participant files. **Participant files** must be collected to facilitate compliance with the general program requirements. Grantees must keep all participants' records for at least three (3) years following training program completion, exit, withdrawal, or dismissal. Ensure that participant files are kept in a secure location.

While the Reporting System maintains significant program information, grantees are also asked to maintain physical or scanned files (i.e., program applications, commitment agreements, age verifications, High School Diplomas/GED/HiSET, interview questionnaires, career assessments, Exit interview questionnaires, certifications/certificates, RAP applications, etc.) for a minimum of 3 years.

A **participant file system** can help grantees locate information quickly during service delivery and monitoring visits. Use the **Participant File Checklist** to ensure all files have consistent order and contents.

*Note: The Participant File Checklist is available in the FEJA Solar Pipeline Training Partner Guide.*

## FEJA Solar Pipeline Training Reporting

As noted in Chapter 1, the FEJA Solar Pipeline Training Program ("Solar Pipeline Training") utilizes state funding appropriated by the Illinois General Assembly. As a result, grantees must comply with all State of Illinois reporting requirements.

This section will outline reporting requirements and critical fiscal information about implementing FEJA Solar Pipeline Training programming.

### Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) Requirements

The **Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA)** (30 ILCS 708/1 et seq.) is landmark legislation designed to increase accountability and transparency in the use of grant funds while reducing the administrative burden on both State agencies and grantees through the adoption of the federal grant guidance and regulations codified in 2 CFR Part 200 (Uniform Requirements).

Keep in mind:

- All grantees must adhere to GATA requirements.
- All grantees must ensure their GATA profile is current. Grantees can access the GATA system through the [Grantee Portal](#).
- Failure to comply with requirements outlined in the grant agreement may lead to being placed on the **Illinois Stop Payment List**. If placed on this list, grantees will not be considered as

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Recipient/Grantee or Subrecipient/Subgrantee for any future funding opportunity if they remain on the list.

### GATA Standardized Reports


All grantees must submit two standardized reports in the GATA system: the **Periodic Performance Report** (PPR) and the **Periodic Financial Report** (PFR). More information about these reports and other relevant grantee resources can be found on the [DCEO Grantee Resources site](#).

**Note:** The PPR and PFR are best accessed utilizing Microsoft Edge or by downloading and opening them in Adobe Acrobat Reader.

### Periodic Performance Report

The **Periodic Performance Report** (PPR) is a standard, uniform performance progress reporting format used by all DCEO agencies to collect performance information from recipients of DCEO grant awards. Unless statutorily exempt as documented in the Catalog of State Financial Assistance and the Grant Agreement (UGA), all grant awards are subject to periodic performance reporting. Specific directions on completing the PPR are supplied on the form on the [DCEO Grantee Resources](#) page.

**Note:** You will need an account to access the [Periodic Performance Report](#) site.



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
**PERIODIC PERFORMANCE REPORT**

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**Periodic Performance Report (PPR) Instructions**

The Periodic Performance Report (PPR) is a standard, uniform statewide performance progress reporting format used by all state agencies to collect performance information from recipients of state grant awards. Unless statutorily exempt as documented in the Catalog of State Financial Assistance and the Grant Agreement (UGA), all grant awards are subject to periodic performance reporting.

General instructions for completing the PPR are contained below. **PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING THE PPR.** Please contact the state agency's points of contact specified in the "State Agency Contacts" section of your UGA if additional support is needed completing the PPR.

If the UGA specifies an alternative file or external database for grant performance reporting, the grantee should mark the shaded box in the PPR accordingly. In the *File Name or Database Source* field, enter the name of the alternative file or database utilized. The grantee is not required to complete Sections 14 - 22 if the information is provided in an alternative format specified in the UGA.

**Report Submission**

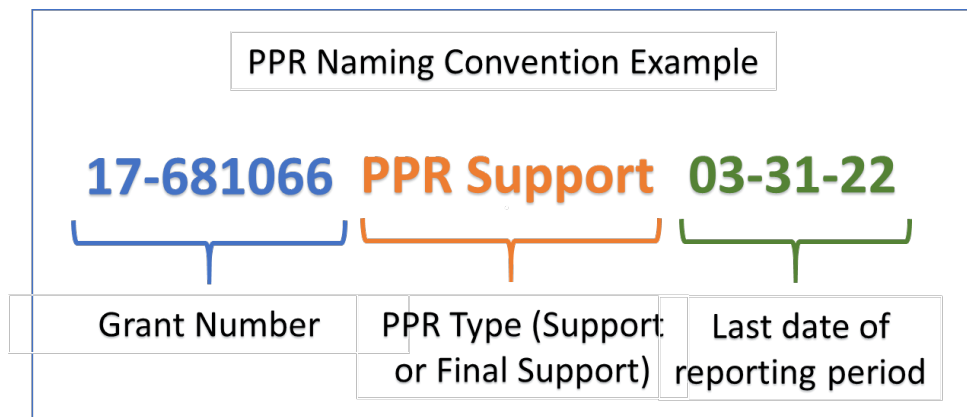
1. The grantee must submit the PPR cover page and any forms required by the awarding state agency as specified in the UGA.

The PPR is due every quarter **within 30 days of the end of each quarter** or as outlined in your grant agreement. Grantee performance data is tracked in the Reporting System. As a result, additional supporting documentation is not required for PPR submission.

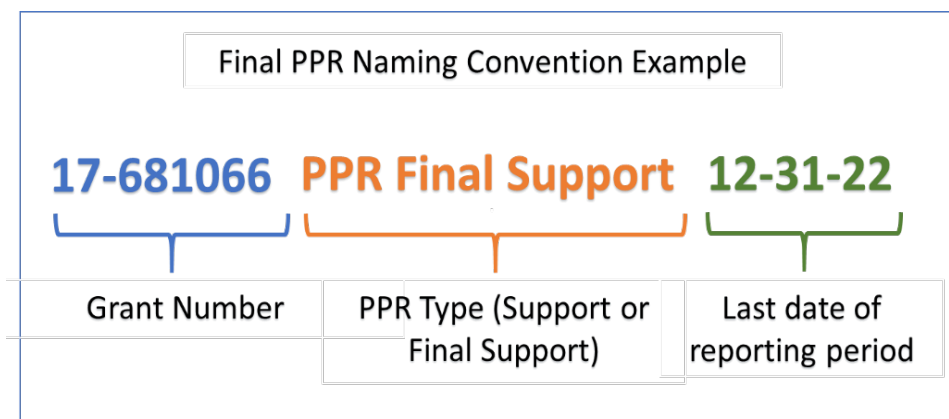
### PPR Requirements

Requirements for the PPR include:

- A **cover page** that includes the grant #, grantee organization, DUNS #, FEIN, and period covered by the PPR must be submitted.
- **Naming convention** that includes the grant number, PPR Support, and last date of the reporting period.



A final PPR is required once the grant award has ended. For final PPRs, the reporting period end date shall be the end date of the grant period.



For specific questions, reach out to your Grant Manager.

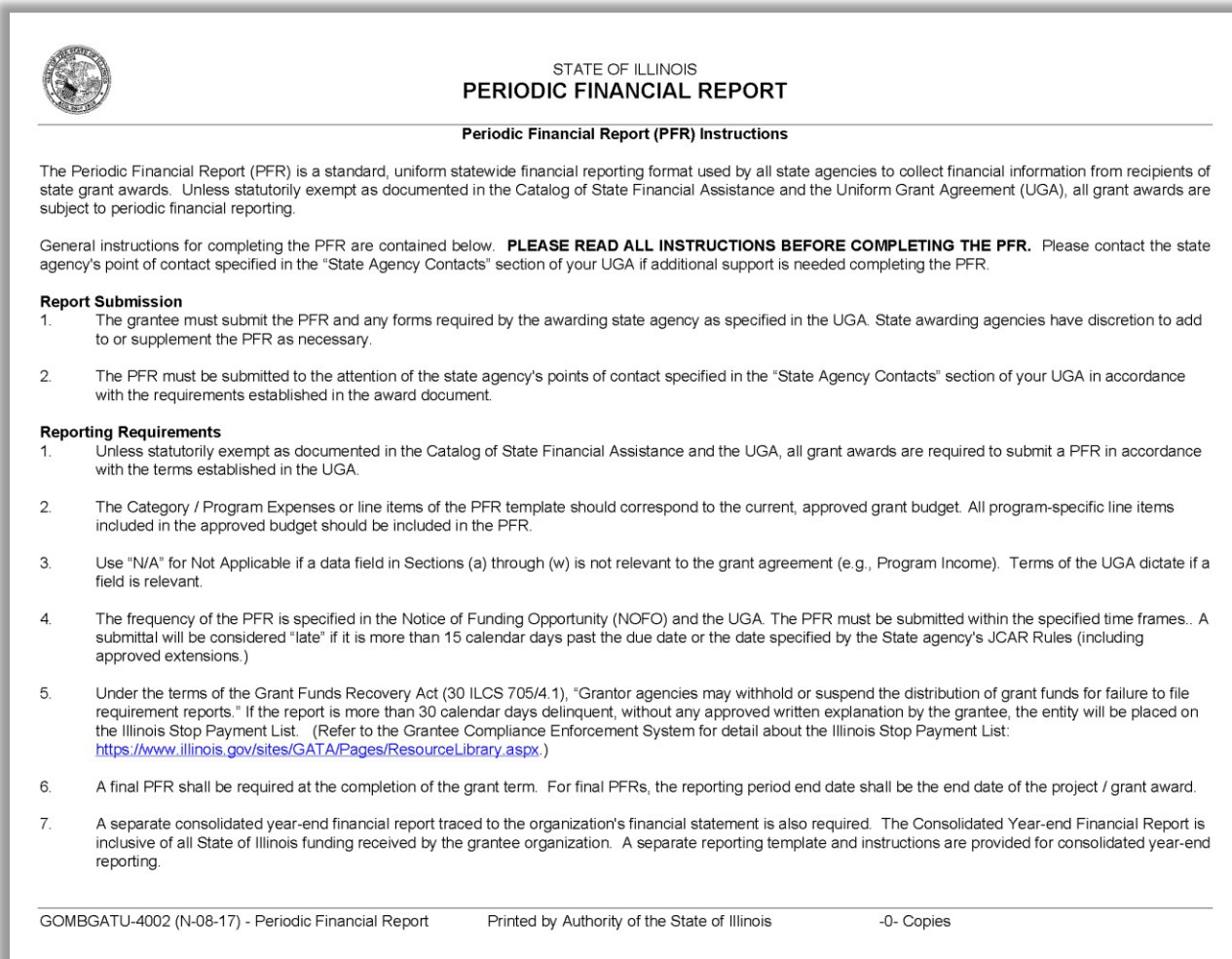
### Periodic Financial Report

The **Periodic Financial Report** (PFR) is a standard uniform financial reporting format used by all DCEO agencies to collect financial information from recipients of DCEO grant awards. Unless statutorily exempt as documented in the Catalog of State Financial Assistance and the Uniform Grant Agreement (UGA), all grant awards are subject to periodic financial reporting.

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Specific directions on completing the PFR are supplied on the form on the DCEO Grantee Resources page – [Periodic Financial Report](#).

**Note:** You will need an account to access the [Periodic Financial Report](#) site.



The screenshot shows the title page of the "STATE OF ILLINOIS PERIODIC FINANCIAL REPORT" instructions. It includes the state seal, the title, and the subtitle "Periodic Financial Report (PFR) Instructions". The text explains that the PFR is a standard format used by all state agencies to collect financial information from recipients of state grant awards. It provides general instructions and lists specific requirements under two sections: "Report Submission" and "Reporting Requirements".

**STATE OF ILLINOIS**  
**PERIODIC FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**Periodic Financial Report (PFR) Instructions**

The Periodic Financial Report (PFR) is a standard, uniform statewide financial reporting format used by all state agencies to collect financial information from recipients of state grant awards. Unless statutorily exempt as documented in the Catalog of State Financial Assistance and the Uniform Grant Agreement (UGA), all grant awards are subject to periodic financial reporting.

General instructions for completing the PFR are contained below. **PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING THE PFR.** Please contact the state agency's point of contact specified in the "State Agency Contacts" section of your UGA if additional support is needed completing the PFR.

**Report Submission**

1. The grantee must submit the PFR and any forms required by the awarding state agency as specified in the UGA. State awarding agencies have discretion to add to or supplement the PFR as necessary.
2. The PFR must be submitted to the attention of the state agency's points of contact specified in the "State Agency Contacts" section of your UGA in accordance with the requirements established in the award document.

**Reporting Requirements**

1. Unless statutorily exempt as documented in the Catalog of State Financial Assistance and the UGA, all grant awards are required to submit a PFR in accordance with the terms established in the UGA.
2. The Category / Program Expenses or line items of the PFR template should correspond to the current, approved grant budget. All program-specific line items included in the approved budget should be included in the PFR.
3. Use "N/A" for Not Applicable if a data field in Sections (a) through (w) is not relevant to the grant agreement (e.g., Program Income). Terms of the UGA dictate if a field is relevant.
4. The frequency of the PFR is specified in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and the UGA. The PFR must be submitted within the specified time frames. A submittal will be considered "late" if it is more than 15 calendar days past the due date or the date specified by the State agency's JCAR Rules (including approved extensions.)
5. Under the terms of the Grant Funds Recovery Act (30 ILCS 705/4.1), "Grantor agencies may withhold or suspend the distribution of grant funds for failure to file requirement reports." If the report is more than 30 calendar days delinquent, without any approved written explanation by the grantee, the entity will be placed on the Illinois Stop Payment List. (Refer to the Grantee Compliance Enforcement System for detail about the Illinois Stop Payment List: <https://www.illinois.gov/sites/GATA/Pages/ResourceLibrary.aspx>.)
6. A final PFR shall be required at the completion of the grant term. For final PFRs, the reporting period end date shall be the end date of the project / grant award.
7. A separate consolidated year-end financial report traced to the organization's financial statement is also required. The Consolidated Year-end Financial Report is inclusive of all State of Illinois funding received by the grantee organization. A separate reporting template and instructions are provided for consolidated year-end reporting.

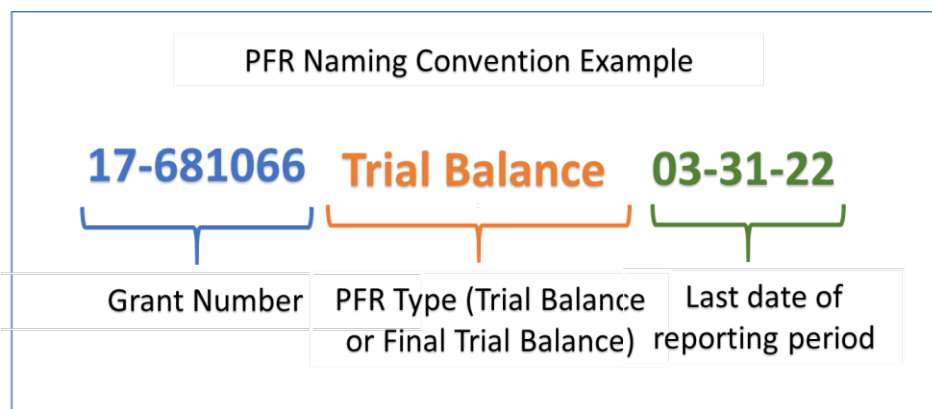
GOMBGATU-4002 (N-08-17) - Periodic Financial Report      Printed by Authority of the State of Illinois      -0- Copies

The PFR is how grantees will submit expenses monthly for reimbursement. The PFR and costs are **due no later than 30 days after the end of the month**.

### PFR Supporting Documentation

Two pieces of documentation must accompany the PFR:

- A **Trial Balance** as supporting documentation for expenditures.
  - **Naming convention** that includes the grant number Trial Balance last date of reporting period – 1X-XXXXXX Trial Balance 12-31-21

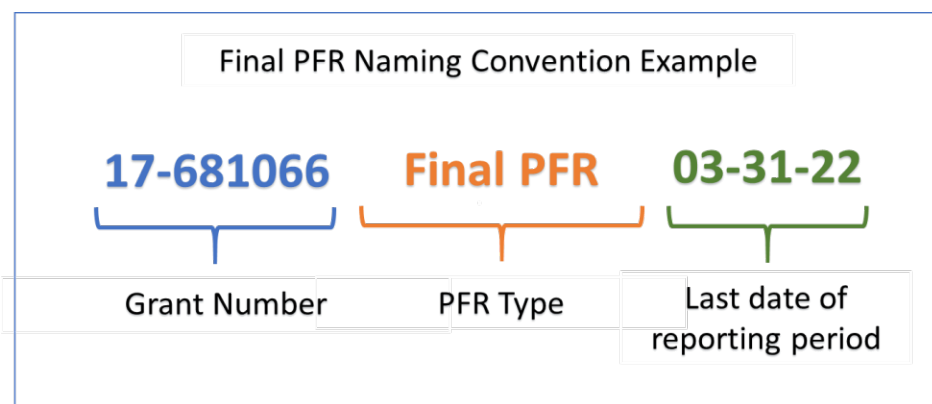


- A **cover page** that includes the grant #, grantee organization, DUNS #, FEIN, and period covered by the PFR must be submitted.

All supporting documentation is to be submitted in a single PDF.

A final PFR is required once the grant award has ended. For final PFRs, the reporting period end date shall be the end date of the grant period. This report does not need to be signed.

- Naming convention includes the grant number PFR last date of reporting period – 1X-XXXXXX PFR 12-31-21



## Fiscal Report Requirements

- The Grantee’s financial management system shall be structured to provide for accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial results of the Project funded under this grant program.
- The general ledger must support costs and revenue reported to the Department. It must allow the tracing of funds to an adequate level of expenditure to ensure funds have been expended appropriately.

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Additional information regarding how to complete the PFR is available on the FEJA Solar Pipeline Training Partner Guide resource page. For specific questions, grantees may contact their assigned Grant Manager and Regional Administrator.

## The Appropriate Use of Funds

Funds shall only be used for the purposes and in direct implementation of the funded program, expressly permitted by the grant agreement to recruit, prescreen, train, and provide barrier reduction services. Grantees are also expected to provide pathways and manage the transition from the program to a clean energy job, clean energy apprenticeship program, or advanced training program.

### Advances

DCEO allows grantees to request an advance on a portion of their grant award. These advances can be up to 20% of the overall grant award. Grant advances **must be requested during the grant negotiation period or within the first three (3) months of the performance period** through a formal letter to the assigned Grant Manager and Regional Administrator on organization letterhead. This letter must outline the advance request and the amount being requested.

The grantee's Grant Manager and/or Regional Administrator will alert the grantee if the advance is approved or denied by DCEO. Please note this process may take three to four (3-4) weeks to complete.

### Allowable Costs

Grant expenditures must comply with 2 CFR 200, any applicable funding source, and be reasonable and necessary. Allowable grant costs were outlined in the NOFO and the FEJA Solar Pipeline Training Program rules and include expenses:

- For designing the training curricula and related materials.
- For providing industry-linked skill training and work-based learning to individuals in the target populations (e.g., instructor costs, curriculum materials).
- For the ongoing evaluation and refinement of the curricula and related materials.
- For designing and implementing a needs assessment to determine the education and training needs of the target populations relative to the skill needs of local industries.
- For related barrier reduction costs.
- For related student/participant support services, such as career counseling, life coaching, and tutoring.
- For stipends.
- For technical assistance as outlined in the applicable NOFO.
- For costs incurred to meet grant administration requirements.
- For costs related to securing participants industry-recognized certifications.
- For costs related to professional development and certifications for staff and instructors.

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- For any other costs determined to be reasonable and necessary to conduct the grant program activities as permitted by 2 CFR 200, the applicable NOFO, and approved by the Department.

**Note:** For additional information regarding barrier reduction, please access the **CEJA Policy 02-PL-24 Barrier Reduction** policy on the [CEJA Policy](#) page in the Partner Guide.

## Budget Modifications

Grantees can change their budget at any point throughout the grant year by following the process outlined below:

1. Submit an updated budget template to the assigned Grant Manager and Regional Administrator via email with all budget changes highlighted.
2. Your Grant Manager, Regional Administrator, and DCEO will review the submission. Additional information or documentation may be requested to complete this review.
3. Once additional information or documentation is reviewed and can be approved by the Grant Manager, Regional Administrator, and DCEO, the grantee will be notified of the approval or disapproval via email.

## Items of Importance Related to Budget Modifications

- Budget modifications can take 4-6 weeks to process fully.
- Once the modification goes to DCEO, expense reimbursements will not be paid until the new budget has been approved and entered into the state's grant system.
- Grantees should continue to submit expenses and all required reports during the modification process.

## Procurement Policy

All grants must follow procurement standards outlined in [2 CFR 200.317 through 2 CFR 200.327](#). Noncompliance with procurement standards may result in the return of funds to the agency.

## How to Comply

1. All Grantees **must** have and use documented procurement procedures consistent with 2 CFR 200.317 through 327.
2. All procurement processes **must** be documented.
3. The Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity **may ask** for the procurement policy and backup documentation as part of a grant monitoring review.

### Summary of Procurement Methods

- Micro-purchase
- Small purchase

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- Sealed bids
- Proposals
- Noncompetitive procurement

More information regarding these methods and maintaining compliance can be found on the [DCEO Grantee Resources](#) page.

## Additional Resources

See the [FEJA Solar Pipeline Partner Guide](#) for additional resources.